

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There has been a significant reduction in the crude birth rate and total fertility rate in these five states as mentioned below:

State	C.B.R.			T.F.R.		
	1981	1998	%Change	1981	1997	%Change
Bihar	39.1	31.1	-20.5	5.7	4.4	-22.8
M. P.	37.6	30.7	-18.4	5.2	4.0	-23.1
Rajasthan	37.1	31.6	-14.8	5.2	4.2	-19.2
U.P.	39.6	32.4	-18.2	5.8	4.8	-17.2
Orissa	33.1	25.7	-22.4	4.3	3.0	-30.2

(c) A committee of Secretaries under the chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary is specifically reviewing the implementation of family welfare programme in the States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh on quarterly basis. In the first meeting of National Commission on Population held on 22nd July, 2000, the Prime Minister has announced constitution of an Empowered Action Group attached to the M/O Health which will be charged with the responsibility of preparing area specific programmes, with special emphasis on States that have been lagging behind in containing population growth to manageable limits and will account for nearly half the country's population in the next two decades.

Discrepancies in promotion of SCs in Shivaji College

2254. **SHRI GANDHI AZAD:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DPC recommended the names of SC candidates for promotion to the post of Sr. Assistant in the Administration of Shivaji College, Delhi, on 26th May, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that administration is not implementing the recommendation of the Chairman of DPC with the connivance of anti-SC/ST lobby; and

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(d) if so, the reasons therefor and by when the recommendation of DPC would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) As per information provided by Delhi University, the Governing Body of the Shivaji College has recommended the name of Mr. R.C. Passi, SC, for promotion to the post of Sr. Assistant by relaxing the required work experience, subject to the approval of the University. The fixation of pay of Mr. Passi even as J.A.C.T. (Junior Assistant-cum-Typist) on promotion from Office Attendant is presently held up pending fulfilment of certain eligibility condition.

Students' Enrolment in Higher Education

2255. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of students going in for higher education in India is alarming;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the same; and

(c) whether Government are having any scheme to send students to foreign countries for higher education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (c) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Policy for empowerment of women

2256. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are set to announce a National Policy for Empowerment of Women;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the policy document is expected to be presented in Parliament; and

(c) whether the policy would eradicate various disabilities and handicaps faced by women in various settings and if so, the details thereof?